

# JAILED EX-CONVICT MUM ABOUT \$30,000 ROBBERY



**HOLDUP SUSPECT . . .** William McNally, a National Supply timekeeper, wanted by Torrance Police for questioning regarding the recent \$30,000 holdup here, attempts to dodge cameramen as he enters the local police station yesterday. George W. Downing (left) also a timekeeper at National, talked McNally into surrendering. McNally, an ex-convict, was booked on suspicion of burglary.

## Blonde Check Artist Sought by Detective

Police today are seeking the cooperation of local citizens in locating a young, reddish-blond woman who has been passing bad checks since the first of February, according to Sgt. Percy Bennett.

The alleged check-passer is Nattie Belle Hilliard, who gave her address as 2159 W. 101 Hwy., Lomita, on the series of b. m. tabs, the police sergeant said. She is about 27 years old, 5 ft. 5 in. tall, and weighs approximately 125 lbs., he added. She is known to have been employed as a waitress.

A check on the woman's address revealed that she had moved last December, at about the same time her account at the California Bank in Lomita, on which the bad checks were written, had been closed out. Value of the bum tabs she has passed amounts to at least \$200, Sgt. Bennett said. She usually wrote the checks to cover purchases in grocery or shoe stores, or restaurants, and took the balance in cash.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the woman, or anyone holding checks, is asked to contact Sgt. Bennett immediately.

## Teenager Hit by Auto Suffers Broken Legs

Hospitalized with two broken legs after being struck by an auto while walking on Hawthorne Ave. near 182nd St. Thursday evening is 16-year-old Velma Polsen, of 4312 W. 178th St. She was allegedly struck by a car driven by A. J. Sinner of Redondo Beach. Redondo police handled the call.

## WEATHER

Predicted weather for today in Southern California is clear and warm, with a high temperature of 74. Winds will calm down in the morning and rise to about 15 to 20 miles.

## Official States

### National Supply Company Not Involved in Holdup

Neither funds nor employees of the National Supply Co. were involved in the recent \$30,000 daylight holdup here, officials of the local manufacturing plant pointed out this week.

"The funds involved were those of employees who had contributed to a mutually-owned corporation, ENESCO, and were not National Supply Co. funds," the spokesman said.

"The victim of the robbery was an employee hired by the employees of National to manage the affairs of their cooperative credit union. He was not an employee of the company," he said.

The company, as a courtesy to its employees, had agreed to furnish them with office space from which they could conduct the affairs of the credit union. Beyond that the company had no connection with the credit union, its affairs, or the robbery, it was stated.

## Tidwell to Fight Charges at Union Meet

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## Embezzlement Suspect, Free To Go, Prefers to Stay in Jail



**COOPERATIVE SUSPECTS WILLIAM McNALLY and JOE ALDEN . . .** One Surrenders to Police, the Other Agrees to Stay in Jail.

Although he was free to go, Joe Alden, who was being held by police here after signing a statement that he had embezzled \$7628 of the National Supply Employees Credit Union funds, preferred to remain in jail until Monday morning when a complaint against him will be sought from the district attorney's office.

Alden, victim of a \$30,000 holdup a week ago Thursday, surrendered to police six days later after admitting to the president of the employees group that he had spent the money for "household expenses, whiskey and another woman."

Results of a lie-detector test which the 35-year-old credit union manager agreed to take last Thursday to determine if he had any complicity in the holdup were termed as "inconclusive" by Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton. Alden has steadfastly denied any knowledge of the holdup men.

The 72-hour maximum period under which Alden could be held expired about 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon. The law under which Alden was booked states that a person can not be held longer than 72 hours unless a complaint has been issued stating the charges under which the man was being held.

**Vote Twice**

Friday afternoon the governing board of the employees group (no connection with the National Supply Company) met to vote whether or not to sign a complaint against the manager of their credit organization. On the first ballot the officers indicated they refused to sign the complaint. However, at approximately 4:30 p.m. Friday afternoon another ballot was taken. This ballot was a "Yes" vote in favor of signing a complaint against Alden charging him with embezzlement.

Due to the lateness of the hour Police Chief John Stroh was unable to get the district attorney's office in Inglewood to issue the complaint. The office had closed for the weekend. This meant the complaint could not be issued until Monday morning. Meanwhile the time under which Alden could be held would expire.

Alden, however, told police he

William McNally, 25, an ex-convict and former National Supply employee, who was wanted for questioning in connection with the recent \$30,000 holdup of the manager of the National Supply Employees Credit Union, was booked on suspicion of burglary yesterday after he voluntarily surrendered to Torrance police.

McNally, formerly a timekeeper at National, was questioned and later booked by Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton after the ex-convict called the local police department, saying, "I understand you are looking for me."

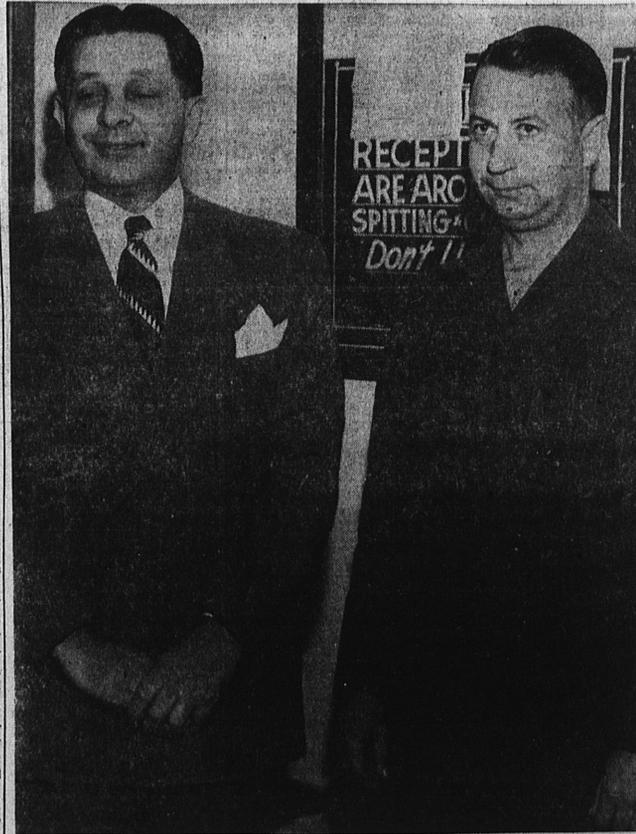
The dark-haired, camera-shy, San Quentin parolee, surrendered to George W. Downing, alleged a National Supply Co. timekeeper and a member of the city's civil service commission. Officer Donald Nash brought McNally to the station as he and Downing and a reserve police officer were escorting McNally to police headquarters on foot. He called the police from a cafe at Cravens and Cabrillo Aves.

He gave his address as the Park Hotel.

would voluntarily surrender to them on Monday morning. By late Friday night he had changed his mind and elected to remain in the Torrance jail voluntarily.

**FBI-In and Out**

The FBI, which has been in and out of the case several times since it first broke a week ago Thursday, backed out again Friday afternoon. The federal agency had informed the local police they would claim jurisdiction over Alden because the funds he claims to have embezzled were federally insured. Later that same day the FBI called stating they would back away from the case until the completion of a federally-conducted audit of the credit union's books. That would require at least 30 to 60 days, they



**WILL FIGHT CHARGES . . .** Haskell Tidwell, ousted secretary-treasurer of the Retail Clerks Union, (right) says he and his attorney, Alexander Schulman (left) will fight the charges leveled against him at a general membership meeting of the 1500 clerks to be held Thursday night.

## 'I Killed Him' Stabbed Hubby Refuses to Sign Against Wife

An all-night meeting in Los Angeles ended up Friday morning for Phillip Smalley with a trip to Harbor General Hospital where doctors put a couple of stitches in a stab wound in his shoulder.

Torrance police reported that Smalley was stabbed in the shoulder by his wife, Doris Smalley, 30, of 2812 W. Carson St., when he and a friend, Harry H. Sibole, of Los Angeles, returned to the Smalley home about 5 a.m.

"I killed him," police reports quoted Mrs. Smalley. She later amended her remarks to: "I only nicked him." Police said all three had apparently been drinking.

Smalley refused to sign a complaint against his wife for the stabbing.

## Baby Dies in Crib

Funeral services were pending today for little Richard Peterson Jr., four months old, who was found dead in his crib early yesterday morning.

Cause of death had not been officially announced at press time. Parents of the baby are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peterson, 2113 Border Ave. They have another child, a girl, who is a twin to the baby that died.

## Good, Outdoor Job Available For Right Man

If there is a man among the Torrance Herald readers who is an experienced sea lion tamer there is a job waiting for him through the California Employment office here.

"There will be no waiting line," stated Fred Boren, employment security officer. The applicant must be able to teach sea lions how to balance, roll, and bounce a ball on its nose.

The pay, according to Boren, is commensurate with others engaged in the profession.

## Judge May Fly East to Attend Mother's Rites

Judge Otto B. Willett of the South Bay Municipal Court was completing arrangements late yesterday to fly to Illinois to attend the funeral of his 76-year old mother who passed away early Saturday morning.

The judge was about to take his seat on the bench to hear the day's court cases when he was informed of his mother's passing. She has never quite recovered from a broken hip suffered about 2 1/2 years ago.

The judge, who lives at 221 Via los Altos, Hollywood Riviera, was attempting to arrange for a judge to hear Monday's calendar and for the care of the Willett children so that he and Mrs. Willett might fly to Effingham, Ill., for the funeral. The services are slated for Monday.

Another son, Irving, of Effingham, and two daughters, Mrs. J. R. Daboval, of New Orleans, and Mrs. Harold Austin of Effingham, survive the judge's mother. There are ten surviving grandchildren.

## Retail Clerks President Ousts Union Secretary

Haskell Tidwell, ousted secretary-treasurer of the AFL Retail Clerks Union, indicated he will fight his removal from office at a general meeting of the union on Thursday night.

Tidwell, confined to bed and under doctor's care, on Friday claimed he was illegally removed from office and that he intended to continue to represent the clerks if they desire.

His removal from office by Vernon J. Housewright, international president of the union, on Wednesday evening was the second removal from office since the clouds of internal storm started forming more than a month ago.

**Legal Action—Maybe**

Tidwell's attorney, Alexander H. Schulman, stated he probably would take legal action but that it would come after the general membership meeting Thursday night. The 1500 members of the union are to be given a report of the findings of a five-man board appointed by the members to investigate the charges.

Reportedly there are 12 charges against Tidwell questioning the use of union funds and his conduct in office.

**No Statement**

President Housewright, who arrived here from Lafayette, Ind. to launch his own investigation of the charges against Tidwell, declined to reveal the reasons for Tidwell's removal. He said that as president of the union he had full power to remove officers when the international takes jurisdiction as in the present case. Earlier all officers of the union including the local president who brought the charges against Tidwell, were removed then reappointed as acting officers. Only Tidwell was removed the second time. He remains, however, a member of the union.

Acting as secretary of the local union at the moment is Ella Mossesso, who came to the San Pedro office of the clerks union from Arizona.

**Blasts Charges**

Attorney Schulman termed the charges against his client as "nebulous, vague, and untrue." He claims that Housewright illegally stopped the trial Wednesday night and that he and other international officers have been sitting on the board of inquiry and questioning witnesses illegally.

That there was some confusion about the "talked" meeting was apparent Friday morning. Tidwell said he had been told the trial was "over," yet an international spokesman stated the trial was still in session. Tidwell stated he had not been notified of any further meetings of the trial board, but that he would attend if notified. However, a reporter calling the ousted union secretary at his home was told that the doctor did not want him to get out of bed even to answer the telephone. The nature of Tidwell's illness nor its seriousness was not stated.

**"Tidwell Out"**

Schulman also made the statement that he was informed the trial was over. He said he attempted to appear before the board on Wednesday and was told: "The trial is over—Tidwell is removed."

Housewright said the international will maintain jurisdiction until an election of officers is conducted by the general membership. The date and the election was not announced by the international officers as of yesterday.

The investigation was ordered March 19 when Wally Elliott, local union president, and several business agents of the union brought the charges against Tidwell. Nominated from the floor were eleven members of the union. Each side had the right

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